

# COMMENDING THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

• Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, today I recognize The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, NJ, which recently awarded its five billionth grant dollar to improve the health and health care of all Americans.

Established in 1972, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the Nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. It concentrates its grantmaking in four goal areas: to assure that all Americans have access to quality health care at reasonable cost; to improve the quality of care and support for people with chronic health conditions; to promote healthy communities and lifestyles; and to reduce the personal, social and economic harm caused by substance abuse.

Since its inception, the Foundation has spearheaded a number of important advances in Nation's health. Currently, 97 percent of all emergency management systems, EMS, use 911 as the universal access number for emergencies. This is the result of a program RWJF launched in the early 1970s to start multi-community emergency medical networks in 32 States. Today, Americans benefit from professional, organized, and effective emergency medical care as a result of this program.

The foundation has also made significant contributions to the nursing and dental professions. It helped to create the fields of nurse practitioners and physician assistants during the early 1970s as part of its effort to increase health care access in the inner cities and rural areas.

All dental students are now trained to treat patients with disabilities, such as cerebral palsy or seizure disorders, building on a foundation-funded training program. The project, Health Care for the Homeless, became a model that was cited when the federal government passed the McKinney Act in 1987, providing Federal funds to improve access to health care for homeless people throughout the country.

The creation of school based health clinics represents another area where RWJF has had a major impact. The foundation's interest was sparked by reports that American teenagers suffered from deteriorating health. Approximately six million adolescents during the mid-1980s suffered from at least one serious health problem. Five million teenagers did not have health insurance. This was an especially alarming figure considering the increase in drug and alcohol abuse and rise in sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents. During the past 12 years, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has helped to establish more than 1,100 health centers in schools.

More recently, the foundation has recognized the need to focus increased attention on promoting healthy communities and lifestyles. For example, the recent grant to push the Foundation over the \$5 billion threshold went to the Church Health Center in Memphis, TN, which will use its funds to

test a model program designed to help people age 50 and older become more physically active. Physical inactivity is one of the greatest health risks for mid-life and older adults, contributing to illnesses and disabilities such as arthritis, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.

There are obviously a number of other noteworthy examples of efforts the Foundation has undertaken—from pediatrics to care at the end of life—which continue to result in important positive health outcomes for our citizens.

It is with great pride that I commend The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for its ongoing commitment to improving health and health care for all Americans. As we in the Congress face the daunting challenge of addressing a number of health care problems in this country, we must continue to draw on the experience and lessons learned from foundations and their grantees, which truly serve as the guideposts for experimentation and innovation.●

## ROSWELL HIGH SCHOOL

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to honor the achievements of a New Mexico high school.

Roswell High School has been honored with the esteemed designation of being named one of the top 10 schools in America by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This great honor is a tribute to the hard work and commitment to excellence demonstrated by the students, parents and families, teachers, staff, and administration of Roswell High School.

In order to qualify for this award, schools must meet very strict criteria. Each school must have both a minority student population and low income rates of 50 percent or higher. In addition, the recipient must have a graduation rate of at least 90 percent with 90 percent of the previous years graduating class attending either a two- or four-year college. I am both honored and privileged to announce that the class of 2001 from Roswell High School had a graduation rate of 96 percent with 90 percent of graduating seniors enrolled in post-secondary education courses. This is truly a laudatory achievement.

Roswell High's students come from many different backgrounds, but they are successful because they have the mind-set that says every student can succeed. They have embraced the differences in their student body, and they have demonstrated that every single student, regardless of background, can and will learn. It takes the dedicated leadership of a good principal, talented teaching corps and engaged parents to achieve this level. The Gates Foundation recognition is a salute to the successful learning environment achieved at Roswell High.

Soon after President Bush took office, he called on Congress to fundamentally change the structure of education, and enact the most sweeping change in education in 35 years.

When President Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act, he began a new era of improved student performance, and introduced us to an educational system that insists on accountability, results, and teacher quality.

Roswell High School has embraced this philosophy and they have taken the lead in their community by insisting on teaching methods that work and taking a stand to get involved and change the expectations we have for our public schools. They deserve to be recognized for their excellence.

One of the most honorable and important duties of government is to educate its children. As our Nation grows, and new generations of leaders emerge, the education they receive early on will reflect in their ability to lead us through tough times, such as the ones currently facing our great country. It is our responsibility to ensure that this new generation is prepared. Their success in the future is a direct reflection on each and every one of us.

Roswell High's student success is also a tribute to this city's long history of a "can do" spirit, deriving from the hearty first settlers on the Chisum Trail, to the rocketry breakthroughs of Robert H. Goddard, to the constant striving of its current leaders to build the best American city possible.

I congratulate Roswell High School. Its commitment to excellence is something that every high school in New Mexico and America should strive to attain.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276L, and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Mr. PETRI of Wisconsin, Chairman.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. HOUTON of New York, Chairman.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. KOLBE of Arizona, Chairman.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 501(b), and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards: Mr. NEY of Ohio, Chairman; Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama; Mr. SWEENEY of New York;